

READERS' FORUM

Selected short letters and abstracts from longer communications from readers are published when they remain within the bounds of decorum and law and contribute anything of value. Hereafter the name and address of the writer will be given. A pen name will be published on the author's request, and letters to the editor not intended for publication should be marked "personal."

April 9, 1926.

TO THE EDITOR:

If CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE will in the future be bound by sewing it will have about reached the acme of perfection and will materially contribute to my spiritual development, for I cannot refrain from swearing when I open a magazine bound by stapling.

I subscribe to some thirty medical and other magazines. The comfort derived in opening, e. g., "The American Journal of Psychiatry," "The Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology," "The International Journal of Psychoanalysis," "Mental Hygiene," "American Mercury," et cetera, in comparison to the stapled "Journal of the American Medical Association," "The Psychoanalytic Review," "Endocrinology," "International Studio" (otherwise beautifully done up), and many others cannot be expressed. To enable me to read with equanimity the stapled magazines I invariably take the staples out before I read them (I keep two sets of tools for this purpose, one in my office and one on my library table at home). This takes time, and in performing the delicate operation I often injure my fingers and have to run for the tincture of iodine bottle. You must admit this is a great nuisance. Therefore, by all means continue to bind CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE by sewing.

C. RENZ, M. D.

San Francisco.

Sacramento, April 10, 1926.

I much prefer the binding used in the April issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE.

C. I. TITUS, M. D.

Occidental, California, April 11, 1926.

TO THE EDITOR:

In my opinion the binding (sewed) of the April issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE constitutes an improvement. I have frequently noticed that the wire stapling of some of our journals gets into such a condition as to be dangerous from scratching the fingers of those who have to handle them. At least it is painful or uncomfortable. Then also the furniture of our homes and offices is apt to suffer from the same cause. The new way makes reading more easy and pleasant. The book becomes docile, as it were. It will stay where one puts it without showing fight. It can be easily conquered with one hand. It is a credit to all concerned.

Most gratefully in the cause of medicine,

R. FORREST, M. D.

Los Angeles, April 10, 1926.

TO THE EDITOR:

There is no possible comparison between stapling and stitching in the interpreting value of a magazine. Heretofore, if I was interrupted in reading an article in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE it took me precious minutes to find my place again. Now I can lay the magazine down and find it as I left it when I wish to take up the reading again. It certainly is a great improvement.

ELMINA FARQUHAR COOK.

DEAR EDITOR:

In your April issue you have a little symposium on bedside medicine, with the subject of whooping cough as the theme. In the articles seven physicians take part. Dr. Myrl Morris speaks of the effects of intramuscular injections of ether, but does not indorse the treatment very strongly.

I am not supposed to be a general practitioner, but in

the last six months I have had five children whom I have looked after with this dreadful disease. Two of them were certainly very bad with the disease and showed the evidences of exhaustion which is a part of the disease. In all these five cases I used the intramuscular injections of ether in the abdominal wall. The ether left no necrotic spot, no evidences of physical injury. I began with about twelve drops, repeating the dose the second time to fifteen drops, and the third dose to about twenty drops. There was a rapid amelioration of all the symptoms from the first. In all these five cases the mothers pronounced the children completely cured. The whoop was eliminated and the accompanying bronchitis quickly disappeared. The doses were given at four or five-day intervals. The response was magical.

I am aware that five cases does not constitute much of a basis from which to form an opinion. But in common with other practitioners, and having had over a third of a century experience in some of the commoner things of medicine, I wish to say that no more vaccine, bromides, codia, or any other empiric medicine would be given by me in treating one of the outstanding plagues of childhood, and such a plague I consider whooping cough to be.

I hope those who read these lines will try the ether as I have outlined in their cases of whooping cough, and I should like to hear from them through the columns of this magazine what their results were.

THOMAS W. BATH, M. D.

Reno, Nevada.

Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, March 25, 1926.

TO THE EDITOR:

Enclosed please find a postoffice money order for which I would thank you to send a copy of the December, 1924, issue to each of the following names and addresses: Mark G. Harris, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles; Dr. J. J. Monohan, 25 East Washington Street, Chicago; Dr. A. Schram, Monroe Building, Chicago; Dr. Francis McNamara, Savings Bank Building, Chicago.

I also request you to please mark the William Fitch Cheney special article as listed on the front cover, so my doctor friends will know the particular article I want them to look over. I think it the "best ever."

MARK G. HARRIS.

Letters like this help expand the growth and influence of western medicine and are valuable to individual doctors.

Martinez, California, April 10, 1926.

TO THE EDITOR:

I have just looked through the April issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE to see your comments on what was said and done at the recent meeting of the Building Trades Council at Marysville in regard to medical and surgical work in industrial accidents, and failed to find any news whatsoever.

Inasmuch as they agitated a change in the industrial accident laws, accused certain doctors of collusion and perjury, and advocated these changes through the initiative or by pledging the candidates to the legislature in advance, and as this talk was by one of the most important of the state labor bodies, I think it worthy of some notice in our magazine.

I have heard this meeting spoken of by labor leaders and by many doctors, and I think that lack of notice by CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, representing the State Medical Association is entirely wrong.

I do not know much else on this subject than what I have written here, but as this has been given rather wide publicity and was in the daily press, you are, or should be, well acquainted with the facts. I certainly think this matter of much more importance than some of the news you publish.

JOHN BEARD, M. D.

Dr. Beard's note is the only information we have received about the meeting to which he refers. Even our newspaper-clipping service failed to cover the story. As Dr. Beard says, information about activities in industrial medicine often constitute medical news of value to physicians which we are glad to publish when we can get it.